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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 91 (i)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Argentina, Belarus, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Germany, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Marshall Islands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Thailand, Ukraine and the United States of America: draft resolution

Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/221, 45/98, 45/188, 46/166 and 47/181, 47/171, and 47/191 of 22 December 1992,

Taking note of Agenda 21 1/ and the Cartagena Commitment, 2/

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship and national development, 3/

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

2/ TD/364, part one, sect. A, "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 8 to 25 February 1992.

3/ A/48/472.

Noting chapter VII of the World Economic Survey, 1993, 4/

Recognizing the importance of the market and the private sector for the efficient functioning of economies in all stages of development,

Recognizing the sovereign right of each State to decide on the development of its private and public sectors, taking into account the comparative advantages of each sector,

Recalling Agenda 21 1/ and the other outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which acknowledged broad participation in decision-making as a fundamental prerequisite for the achievement of sustainable development,

Acknowledging that entrepreneurship is a means by which participation of individuals in economic growth and sustainable development may be effectively enhanced,

Noting that many countries continue to attach major importance to the privatization of enterprises, demonopolization and administrative deregulation in the context of their economic restructuring policies,

Recognizing the important role of Governments in creating, through transparent and participatory processes, the enabling environment supportive of entrepreneurship and facilitative of privatization, in particular the establishment of the judicial, executive, and legislative frameworks necessary for a market-based exchange of goods and services and for good management, as described in paragraphs 27 and 28 of the Cartagena Commitment,

Noting the difficulties that countries encounter in promoting entrepreneurship and in implementing privatization programmes due to lack of appropriate experience and technical capacities in those areas,

Welcoming the activities that have been undertaken by United Nations organs, organizations and programmes and by the specialized agencies of the United Nations system in supporting national efforts aimed at creating enabling environments for entrepreneurship and for the implementation of privatization programmes,

Recalling with satisfaction the active collaboration between the United Nations system and private-sector associations, such as the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Development Programme with the International Chamber of Commerce, the Business Council for Sustainable Development, and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Group of 77,

Mindful of Secretariat resource constraints and therefore the need to rationalize related agenda items and reporting requests,

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4/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.C.1.

1. Invites Member States to enhance the exchange of information among themselves and all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system on activities, programmes and experiences of Member States and the United Nations system concerning entrepreneurship, privatization, demonopolization, and administrative deregulation in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of technical assistance cooperation in this field;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to give high priority to and to strengthen, within existing resources, the activities of the United Nations system related to the promotion of entrepreneurship and related to the implementation of privatization programmes, demonopolization, and administrative deregulation, through, inter alia, better coordination;

3. Calls upon the relevant organs, organizations, and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, according to their mandates, to develop and to, upon request, increase technical assistance and to incorporate in their respective programming and activities specific objectives that will:

(a) Facilitate the creation of enabling environments for the establishment and growth of small and medium-sized enterprises and for the support of local entrepreneurs;

(b) Facilitate the design and implementation of privatization, demonopolization, and administrative deregulation policies;

(c) Assist relevant national institutions in developing the capacities to issue appropriate policy, legal, regulatory and fiscal frameworks and incentives to promote entrepreneurship and to design and implement privatization, demonopolization, and administrative deregulation policies;

4. Encourages the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in pursuing these activities to foster active partnerships between public entities and private entities, taking into account the self-organizing capacities of entrepreneurs, through, for example:

(a) Mechanisms for discussions and consultations by relevant parties as to the appropriate ways to enhance the environment for entrepreneurship, privatization, demonopolization, and administrative deregulation;

(b) National and, where appropriate, regional workshops to review and disseminate experience and lessons learned locally and internationally on the promotion of entrepreneurship and on the implementation of privatization, demonopolization, and administrative deregulation;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a biennial report, in consultation with the heads of relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, on policies and activities related to entrepreneurship and on policies and activities related to privatization, demonopolization, and administrative deregulation carried out by the Secretary-General and the relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, with reference to the UNCTAD Ad Hoc Working Group on Comparative Experiences with Privatization and the UNCTAD Intergovernmental Working Group on Restrictive Business Practices;

6. Decides to review and appraise at its fiftieth session the activities related to the present resolution as a sub-item entitled "Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development" under the agenda item "Development and international economic cooperation".